

City Of North Miami *City Of North Miami*

Preliminary 1st Budget Hearing

*September 10th, 2014
6:00 P.M.*



**776 N.E. 125th Street North Miami, FL 33161
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northmiamifl.gov
VERBATIM MINUTES**

**SPECIAL MEETING
1st BUDGET HEARING**

SEPTEMBER 10th, 2014

The first budget hearing of the North Miami City Council was held in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Tuesday, September 10th, 2014, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

(Phonetic spelling of each speaker's name may be used throughout the minutes unless correct spelling is known.)

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Mayor Tondreau: Good evening everyone. It is Wednesday, September the 10 and its 6 o'clock. And our first Budget Hearing will begin. Good afternoon and thank you for coming in. Mr. City Clerk, roll call please.

ROLL CALL	Mayor Bien-Aime	Here
	Councilwoman Steril	Here
	Councilwoman Keys	Here
	Councilman Galvin	Here

City Clerk Etienne: Mayor, we have a quorum.

Mayor Bien-Aime: Thank you. Meaning we have quorum, we're going our first hearing budget. Again it's Wednesday, September the 10th, 2014. And we started exactly at 6 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / INVOCATION

Mayor Bien-Aime: Now we're going to have Officer Stirrup for the Pledge of Allegation and we're going to have Mr. Mike McDearmaid in the Invocation.

Officer Stirrup: If everyone would please stand and place your right hand over your heart, your chest. I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Mr. McDearmaid: Dear Heavenly Father, please bless these precedings tonight and give the decision makers of the City, the City Council, insight into the great needs and priorities for the citizens of North Miami. And may their deliberations serve all of the citizens of this City. Amen.

3. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mayor Bien-Aime: Like you all this is our Budget Hearing and I think we're going to vote on Tab A first. Then after that we're going to do the presentation. And when it comes to Tab B, before Tab B that's when you're going to have your presentation.

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

TAB A

Mayor Bien-Aime: And can you give us an overview and explanation about Tab A.

Mr. Sorey: Staff is recommending the same millage rate as we had last year 7.9336. That is...well I'm sorry. Let the Clerk please read Tab A first for me. I'm sorry.

City Clerk Etienne: (reads resolution by title only)

A RESOLUTION OF THE VICE MAYOR AS ACTING
MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA, ADOPTING A TENTATIVE
MILLAGE RATE OF 7.93360 MILLS FOR FISCAL YEAR
2014 – 2015; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE
AND ALL OTHER PURPOSES

Mayor Etienne: Whereas, the City of North Miami Florida (CITY) as considered, an operating budget for Fiscal Year 2014 – 2015 in accordance with the provisions of Section 200.065 Florida Statutes 2014 and whereas, the millage rate necessary to fund the City's operating budget for Fiscal Year 2014 – 2015 is 7.9336 mills which is 9.49% more than the roll back rate of 7.1808 mills. And whereas, in accordance with Statute 200.065 (5) Florida Statutes 2014 an amended from time to time, a majority vote of the Vice Mayor as Acting Mayor and City Council is required to adopt a rate of up to 7.9336 mills. And whereas, the Vice Mayor as Acting Mayor and City Council find that the adoption of the proposed tentative millage rate for Fiscal Year 2014 – 2015 is in the best interest of the City. Now therefore be it duly resolved by the Vice Mayor as Acting Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida as follows. Section 1, adoption of tentative millage rate. The Vice Mayor as Acting Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida hereby adopt 7.9336 mills as the tentative millage rate on assessed property value necessary to fund the City's Fiscal Year 2014 – 2015 operating budget. Section 2, effective date; this resolution shall become effective

immediately upon adoption. Passed and adopted by a blank vote of the Vice Mayor as Acting Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami this blank day of blank 2014.

Mayor Bien-Aime: Thank you very much. And I invite the Budget Manager or the City Manager if you can give us an explanation and explain us why you're proposing that millage rate.

Mr. Sorey: Yes Mayor, Arthur Sorey Budget Director. We're proposing the same millage rate as last year, that's 2013-2014. And actuality the property values did increase slightly by 7% but over the last few years we haven't done many capital projects and we do know that we do need Police cars and other capital items. So we're recommending that we do keep the same millage rate 7.9336 this Fiscal Year. It equates to about \$1.1 million dollars of additional revenue for the City. And I'll show you where that \$1.1 million dollars is spent at during my presentation before Tab B.

Mayor Bien-Aime: In your explanation about Tab A, you said one of the reasons that you recommend that you said the Police Department need what?

Mr. Sorey: Well we need Police...it's not just the Police vehicles. I don't want to just put it on the Police vehicles. Its several capital items. Property values were decreasing for years. Last year was the first year they almost stabilized. This is the first year that we did have a slight increase. So we're recommending to keep the millage rate the same and let's take care of the some of the capital items that we need to take care of that we've been slacking on over the last couple of years.

Mayor Bien-Aime: For the Police vehicles and...how much money is set in the Budget for...

Mr. Sorey: In this Budget there's \$600,000.00 that is allocated for Police vehicles with approximately another \$140,000.00 from vehicles that was supposed to be purchased last year that will be rolled over.

Mayor Bien-Aime: Not for the Police Department for the other departments.

Mr. Sorey: Well it's a combination of all of the departments but mainly the Police Department.

Mayor Bien-Aime: Okay you're talking about \$750,000.00 for vehicles...

Mr. Sorey: Yes sir about \$740,000.00.

Mayor Bien-Aime: ...\$600,000.00 for the Police Department.

Mayor Bien-Aime: Yes sir. And thank you very much. And now I think we're going to open Public Hearing on Tab A. Public Hearing is open on Tab A. Public Hearing is open on Tab A. Public Hearing is now closed on Tab A. Can I hear a motion for approval or discussion?

Councilman Galvin: I'll move Tab A.

Mayor Bien-Aime: I second it. And do you have any concern Council Keys?

Councilwoman Keys: No. Well we can always go back and amend this at our second reading, correct?

Councilman Galvin: As long as it goes lower. We can't go higher.

Mr. Sorey: Correct.

Mayor Bien-Aime: But if you have a concern you can express it now.

Councilwoman Keys: I have no concern. I just want to make sure we can...

Mayor Bien-Aime: And since we don't have any concern. Roll call Mr. Clerk.

ROLL CALL	Councilman Galvin	Yes
	Councilwoman Keys	Yes
	Councilwoman Steril	Yes
	Mayor Bien-Aime	Yes

City Clerk Etienne: Tab A passes 4-0.

TAB B

Mayor Bien-Aime: Thank you very much. We have Tab B. And from I understand you're going to have a presentation. Go ahead.

City Clerk Etienne: Do I read it first or?

Mayor Bien-Aime: Yeah you're going to read it.

City Clerk Etienne: (reads ordinance by title only)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VICE MAYOR AS ACTING MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA, ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE BUDGET OF THE CITY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2014 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2015; AUTHORIZING THE AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR THE OPERATION OF THE CITY FOR THE 2014-2015 FISCAL YEAR; AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS ESTABLISHED BY THE BUDGET; AUTHORIZING A “RETURN OF INVESTMENT” TRANSFER FROM THE WATER & SEWER UTILITY FUND TO THE GENERAL FUND; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO IMPLEMENT BUDGET AMENDMENTS (REVENUE AND/OR EXPENDITURE) TO APPROPRIATE OR UNAPPROPRIATE FUNDS AS REQUIRED DURING THE FISCAL YEAR, AND TO AMEND THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR BUDGET TO FACILITATE THE YEAR-END CLOSING PROCESS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Clerk Etienne: Whereas, the budget of the City of North Miami, Florida (CITY) for the Fiscal Year commencing October 1, 2014 and ending September 30, 2015 (attached hereto as “Exhibit 1”) was considered at public hearings held on September 10, 2014, and September 22, 2014, as required by Chapter 200, Florida Statutes; and whereas, the Vice Mayor as Acting Mayor and City Council wish to approve and adopt the Budget of the City for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2014, and ending September 30, 2015, and to authorize that this amount be raised by taxation for the operation of the City for the 2014 – 2015 Fiscal Year. Now, therefore, be it ordained by the Vice Mayor and Acting Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida that Section 1, Budget Approved and Adopted. The Budget of the City of North Miami for the 2014 – 2015 Fiscal Year, (attached hereto as ‘Exhibit 1’), is hereby approved and adopted. Section 2, Implement Budget Amendments. The City Manager of the City of North Miami is hereby, authorized to implement Budget amendments (revenue and/or expenditure) by resolution, to appropriate or un-appropriate funds as required during the fiscal year, and to amend the prior fiscal year budget, by resolution, to facilitate the year-end closing process. Section 3, Expenditure of Funds Appropriated in the Authorized Budget. Funds appropriated to the various departments in the Budget may be expended by the directors of each department by and with the approval of the City Manager in accordance with the provisions of the City Charter and applicable Ordinances. Expenditures of funds (including, but not limited to enterprise funds,

internal service funds and expendable trust funds) under circumstances which additional revenues are generated by user fees or charges to offset the cost of supplying a service to the residents or other City departments, shall not be limited by estimated appropriations, but rather by actual revenue, and to that extent, the actual revenue received shall be deemed to be appropriated. Section 4, Return on Investment of Water and Sewer Fund Assets. The Budget includes a transfer from the Water and Sewer Operation and Maintenance Fund to the General Fund representing the return on investment that taxpayers would receive if the utility were sold. The transfer for the 2014 – 2015 Fiscal Year is calculated at 6.0% of Fixed Assets as of September 30, 2013. This transfer may be made annually but will not exceed 7.5% of the utility's net Fixed Assets. Section 5, Checks. All checks on City bank accounts shall be signed by any member of the City Council and the Finance Director. Section 6, Amount of Taxes. The approximate amount of \$17,503,679.00 shall be the amount of gross taxes to be raised by the operating ad valorem tax levy authorized by Resolution of the City Council. Section 7, Authority of Manager. The City Manager is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents and instruments and to do and cause to be done any and all acts and things necessary or proper for carrying out the transactions contemplated by this Ordinance. Section 8, Repeal. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict or inconsistent are repealed. Section 9, Severability. If any word, clause, phrase, sentence, paragraph, or Section of this Ordinance is held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration of invalidity shall not affect any other word, clause, phrase, sentence, paragraph or Section of this Ordinance. Section 10, Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage on second reading. Passed and adopted by a blank vote of the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami on first reading. This blank day of blank, 2013; passed and adopted by a blank vote of the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami on second reading this blank day of blank, 2014.

Mayor Bien-Aimer: Thank you very much. Mr. Sorey.

Mr. Sorey: Thank you. As mentioned earlier, Staff is recommending the millage rate of 7.9336. The same millage rate as last year. This chart just shows you in the past we did have Debt Service which is the green bars at the bottom, of how much debt we did have. For the third straight year we do not have debt or any debt service to pay. So the millage rate is at 7.9336, the proposed millage rate. The General Fund, this year your General Fund will be \$60.1 million dollars up just slightly over \$4 million dollars from last year; last year's estimated expenses that is. How is this money generated? Through taxes we'll generate \$24 million dollars, 24.2. Licenses and permits \$1.9 million dollars, intergovernmental revenue \$6.2 million dollars, charges for services \$4 million dollars, fine and forfeits \$2.7 million dollars, miscellaneous revenues \$2.7 million and non-revenues \$17 million dollars; all in the total of \$60 millions \$60.1 million dollars for your General Fund Budget. The next one is basically how that money is broken down for each category. I won't go through all the categories that we have in past but you do have a breakdown of how all the money is broken down for each of the

categories. And giving these categories a total of \$60.1 million dollars. One that I will touch on is the non-revenues since it's such a large amount the \$17 million dollars. That is where our reserves are at and that is where the inter fund transfer from the Water & Sewer Department is; stormwater. Those are the enterprise contributions that come over into the General Fund along with your money that's set aside for reserves. The \$5 million dollars in reserves, money left over from the Biscayne Landings proceeds. What does your \$60.1 million dollars go this year, 55% of it will go to personnel, 20% to operating cost, 7% internal services, grants and aids about 1%, reserves 16% in the reserves. And I know you'll note personnel services is 55%. I think it might have been maybe three, four years ago we were at 69% for personnel services. So personnel services continue to go down over the few years. The next slide is a slide of all the departments. Let me start by saying pretty much almost every department did increase slightly. The increase however is because of \$1 million additional funds for pension. Our pension cost did go up by \$1 million dollars. So that is one of the main reasons. Also built into this proposed balanced budget is the reduction of furlough days. A reduction from six to three furlough days as well as a 2% cost of living increase for all non-unionized employees. The increase...the 2% increase also is...it recognizes the 2% that we did give the Police Department. We have taken that into account that we gave the Police Department I believe at the last...we ratified last night. So this Budget does take that 2% into account. Again all the departments total \$60.1 million dollars. The next one and we'll move over now to our Enterprise Funds (Stormwater). The budget for Stormwater is \$2.7 million dollars. With a modest reserve of about \$48,000.00. Operating expenses is about 1.3, personnel \$541,000.00. Debt services is \$441,000.00 and internal services is \$7,000.00. The Stormwater fund is...like I said we have a modest reserve of about \$40,000.00, so it's there. Also, our Stormwater Fund will be...will go up by the CPI of approximately 2% and that is done every year. Water & Sewer, your Water & Sewer Budget this year \$48.9 million dollars, \$4 million of that is for personnel, \$20 million for operating expenses, \$767,000.00 for internal services, \$8.6 million dollars for capital outlay and \$15 for reserves. The reserve number is high but I just want to take a moment to explain to you. There's approximately \$7 million dollars, \$7.4 million dollars for your CIF money, when we had the CIF fee. And that money is to work on the Water Plant. So that money is set aside. I know we're going to be addressing the Water Plant this Fiscal Year. So the majority of that money will be spent \$7 million of those dollars. Also in conjunction with the water rate study that we did have, it was recommended that we have about \$3.9 million dollars in operating reserves. So that puts that number to about \$10 million dollars that is set aside that it accounted for. There's \$5 million dollars left. This does not include any of the money that we have. We possibly will spend on the Water Plant outside of that and we have enough money set aside in case the second meter study or when we do address the second meters. We didn't want to budget all the money out. We don't know what the (inaudible) is going to be on this budget this year. So there is money left aside to address the second meter problem if there is a problem or a discussion on that moving forward. Capital projects, we're proud to say this year we have a lot of money budgeted to capital projects. Building improvements, that's the Police

Department. It's always been almost \$100,000.00 for the last few years. But you remember last year we did spend a significant amount of money on the air condition chillers. I believe we ratified that last night. So now we'll annually budget. They've used all of their money that was budgeted for the settlement. So from now they will have an annual allocation to keep the Police Department operational of \$25,000.00. Fleet, as I mentioned earlier there is money budgeted for vehicles in the amount of \$744,000.00. Computer switches, \$42,000.00, replacement computers, we have a lease program with our computer system. The lease program has run out so we will be updating the computers. We haven't budgeted any new computers in the past three years. So this will be for the purchase of the new computers. Downtown revitalization, this is with transportation and some grant money in the amount \$1 million dollars. Road and right of way improvements \$274,000.00, street resurfacing \$650, sidewalk installation \$400,000.00. Up \$300,000.00 from our normal allocation of \$100,000.00. Road way improvements \$92,000.00, lift station rehab \$200,000.00, Sanitation Sewer rehab \$2.6 million dollars. Water & Sewer equipment \$163,000.00, water line replacement \$300,000.00 and a couple of capital...I mean Water & Sewer capital projects in the amount of \$2.7. And then we have money coming out of Water & Sewer to replace some vehicles also \$345,000.00. So your total Capital Budget for FY15, \$14.7 million dollars. Our total Budget we're looking at this year \$141.8 million dollars. And this is how it's broken down. General Fund again \$60.1 million dollars, Enterprise Funds \$52.6 all other funds \$16.6, Internal Services that's Fleet and Risk \$7 million dollars, Housing Program about \$1.7, Transportation \$3.6, \$141.8 million dollars. That concludes my presentation. I just want...we do have the reduction of furlough days in this Budget from six down to three. The furlough day funds and the 2% COLA came out of the Biscayne Landing allocation for staff. The \$3.5 million that was originally allocated it was reduced down to \$1.4 million dollars last year. We did take about \$600,000.00 out of that allocation to give the...reduce furlough days and the 2% COLA. We didn't take it out of any of the other money. Also, in the Budget is \$200,000.00 budgeted for the forensic audit. Sent out an RFP for and I think that's it.

Mayor Bien-Aime: But it's not the draft. Did you add any...

Mr. Sorey: It's not in the draft. We change as we move. The Budget is constantly changing so that is not there but it is inside our Budget. And you'll have updated drafts of your Budget by Monday. So prior to us going into the second meeting you'll see the updated version of all of your drafts.

Mayor Bien-Aime: From what I understand that's only money allocated in the Budget that's not here.

Mr. Sorey: It's there. That document I gave...I presented that document to Council I think last week Thursday or right before...or after Labor Day weekend. And it's a working document. It is a draft. That document changed today. As we continue to

balance the Budget as we get new information, new requests, the Budget does change. So it will be updated prior to the second Budget Hearing and you guys will get a copy of the updated version. Councilman Galvin.

Councilman Galvin: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Bien-Aime: Yes.

Councilman Galvin: I'm confused. How can we review a Budget on first reading that's not exactly what we're seeing? If it's constantly being updated and changed, you can't constantly do that. You have to have a point where it's got a first reading and it's unchanged and we're approving it. And there's a second reading and then we can approve it on second reading. But if this document is different from what you're asking us to approve tonight, we can't approve this tonight because it's different.

Mr. Sorey: The changes are moderate changes. There's nothing major that changed in the Budget. And I'll be happy...I mean we can go through some of the changes that were made and I'll go through each one of them with you guys. But the document changed as we went through the Budget.

Mayor Bien-Aime: But if we're going to have the first reading and tonight there's any change...

Mr. Sorey: You guys will have changes tonight. I'm sure that you guys are going to ask me to make changes this evening and add stuff to the Budget or take stuff out of the Budget and it's going to change again.

Mayor Bien-Aime: My mic is on. Is your mic on?

Councilman Galvin: I apologize. You first need to tell...I took the time to read and look at this over the weekend. I'm prepared to talk about this. If there are any changes no matter how small, I need to know each and every one of them before we start talking and voting. And I hate to be here until midnight but if that's what it takes, that's what we'll have to do. But you can't add and subtract and expect me to vote in favor.

Mayor Bien-Aime: Because when you gave us this right, anything you're going to add or take off from this, we're going to need a vote on it. That mean we need a complete Budget. Then we can work on it. I don't know if we need to go on a recess and give you 15 minutes to put everything together to make sure we get...we have a complete Budget. Then we can work on it.

Mr. Sorey: If you guys would like to take a 15 minute recess, that's fine.

Mayor Bien-Aime: We're going to take a 15 minute recess.

Councilman Galvin: I'll second that.

Mayor Bien-Aime: Thank you.

Budget Hearing is back in session

Mayor Bien-Aime: I think we're going to have another roll call to make sure we have quorum to conduct business.

City Clerk Etienne: Do you want me to wait for Scott?

Mayor Bien-Aime: Yeah he's coming. Just give him a few minutes. We're back. It's 7:18 and let the record reflect that we're back from recess at 7:18 and we're going to have another roll call to make sure we have quorum to conduct business.

ROLL CALL	Mayor Bien-Aime	Here
	Councilwoman Steril	Here
	Councilman Galvin	Here
	Councilwoman Keys	Here

City Clerk Etienne: Mayor, we have a quorum.

Mayor Bien-Aime: Mr. Budget Director, can you give us...

Mr. Sorey: Mayor and Council, I'd first like to start by apologizing for the mix up. During the course of the Budget process there were a couple of items that were mistaken omitted and I did go back in and make adjustments to these items today but they are key items that were left out by mistake again. The handout that I did give you is by page number and it should be along with the pages in your book already.

Mayor Bien-Aime: Did you make it available to the public? Can we make copies and...yeah or you can read it while we're doing that.

Mr. Sorey: Page 143 non department, the total did change there. What did change was on page 147 the contingency amount dropped down to \$604,345.00.

Mayor Bien-Aime: Why is that?

Mr. Sorey: What was removed from there was for NoMi Nights. That is a Parks and Recreation. It falls under...

Councilman Galvin: Duke I don't think your mic is on there. They're waving.

Mr. Sorey: I'm sorry. What was removed from there was for NoMi Nights. It is something that's in Parks and Recreation.

Mayor Bien-Aime: How much was it?

Mr. Sorey: It was \$50,000.00 sir.

Mayor Bien-Aime: And you said it's been removed?

Mr. Sorey: It's been added. It was moved from the contingency and added to Parks and Recreation. Also, the Biscayne Landing unappropriated balance was \$2.2 million dollars, that number has been dropped down to \$2,016,494.00. \$200,000.00 was removed from there and used for the forensic audit.

Mayor Bien-Aime: How much is the forensic?

Mr. Sorey: We put in an estimated \$200,000.00 amount.

Councilman Galvin: It could be less though.

Mr. Sorey: It could be less.

Councilwoman Steril: Or more.

Councilman Galvin: Or more.

Mayor Bien-Aime: You set aside \$200,000.00 for it?

Mr. Sorey: Yes sir. Page 151 grants to others. We did budget the Haitian American Chamber of Commerce. I believe it's moved inside North Miami and they did put in a request earlier and that was admitted and that's in the amount of \$5,000.00, the same as the North Miami Chamber of Commerce. Page 344 Public Works, that did change.

Mayor Bien-Aime: 344, okay.

Mr. Sorey: That's the department title page. Under 450, which is page 363 I removed the \$1 million dollars that all of you had in non-departmental for capital projects. I did remove that \$1,000,000.00. It's this sheet here; \$700,000.00 was put aside for streetscape improvements, swale improvements, parking and landscaping.

Councilwoman Keys: What happened to our million?

Mr. Sorey: And the last \$300,000.00 for the million that Councilwoman Keys is referring to is mistaken omitted. The maintenance contract on Biscayne Landing in the amount of \$300,000.00.

Councilwoman Steril: But it's not, we don't pay the entire amount. Why are you allocating the entire one million to pay the...

Mr. Sorey: I account for the \$150,000.00 in our revenues. I do account for \$150,000.00 that the Swerdlow Group pays us. But we still write the check out of the City amount. So I put the \$300,000.00 in this Budget so we can pay the monthly payments in that amount. So it's a net 150 but it is...

Mayor Bien-Aime: For accounting reason you add it as a revenue and then you spend it.

Mr. Sorey: Yes sir. And that's the changes that are made. Again I'd like to apologize for my mistake in omitting these things in the Budget. It was my fault.

Mayor Bien-Aime: Are you done with your presentation?

Mr. Sorey: I'm done with my presentation sir.

Mayor Bien-Aime: Okay and thank you very much. Now I think we're going to open Public Hearing. Then after that each Councilmember is going to be able to speak. You have about two minutes to speak. You always can come back but two minutes. Public Hearing is now open on the Budget.

Ms. Brown: Good evening my name is Judy Brown and I'm from Sunkist Grove Community Association. And I'm here to request that in some way, form or fashion you'll be able to find enough money in the Budget to build a walk in track on the undeveloped land behind the Joe Celestin Center at Pepper Park. We have elderly people that's in our community that walk around the park every day for medical reasons. And I spoke to the Park Director and two accidents or three. The cars have come off of the 135th east and west going on 135th, jumped on the curb and barely missed some of these people. It's just a matter of time someone's going to be killed. I've been living in the City for quite some time. And we requested and requested and requested an inside track so they can get off that walking around the park. And we...I would like if there's some way, I know if you can find money for a dog park, that maybe possibly you can find enough money to put a track. Something similar to what's that...a picture North Miami Senior High there's a track and a couple of those stationery machines like they have down at Gwen Cherry Park and around the City and all over now. So that's what I'm

asking for at this particular time. But we would really appreciate it if by some means if you could find enough money to get the elderly people from around that perimeter of that park. And not only that, you know it's not only our citizens, it's Dade County. They come from...and they utilize that seven days a week. You can go out there and you can see someone walking around the park. They feel like it's a very safe around and since the cameras have come in, thank the Councilwoman, Mayor; the cameras are there. So the cars are not being broken in to. So we would just appreciate it if you can just find that money in this Budget for us. Thank you.

Mayor Bien-Aime: And Mr...and if you add all the requests because I use the park also and I was asking myself if we cannot have a track at least we put inside sidewalks.

City Manager Ghany: Previously you were looking at...due to the cost of putting in the concrete track, we were looking at just putting in an asphalt track inside with a nautilus, with nautilus equipment. We are still trying to look at pricing to see how much it's going to cost.

Mayor Bien-Aime: Thank you very much. Public Hearing is open on the Budget Tab B.

Mr. Each: Kenneth Each, 776 N.E. 125th. I didn't get to look at the...I was just speaking to the City Manager. I hope we're going to add a couple of more Minimum Housing Officers or Code Enforcement Officers.

City Manager Ghany: Potentially we're looking at two additional.

Mr. Each: Two additional? I would think this is very important since we're all worried about the cleanliness and the neatness of our City. You know we have a reputation for not being the nicest looking City. But we are on the road to progress and I think that would be a very, very important thing where the rubber meets the road. We don't need any more executives; we need people out there to take care of the basics. Thank you.

Mayor Bien-Aime: Thank you. And regarding that Mr. City Manager, I don't know if I have to intervene. I think we should have a workshop about the reorganization of your Code Enforcement and the Building Department. Since throughout the election before it was the water bill, the water bill.

City Manager Ghany: Correct.

Mayor Bien-Aime: And I think now everything people are talking about is Code Enforcement, Code Enforcement, Code Enforcement and the Building Department.

I went to Miami-Dade League of Cities and the Mayor from Bal Harbour came to me. He said man; I can't imagine I have to spend three hours inside your Building Department. That's the two big major departments that need real reorganization. And I think we should have a workshop about that since we been...

City Manager Ghany: We started earlier. Internally we started already. Code Enforcement has fallen under a certain section or division of...

Mayor Bien-Aime: No, we will talk about reorganization. I just mentioned that. Public Hearing is still open on the Budget. Public Hearing is still open on the Budget. Mike, nothing? Public Hearing is open on the Budget.

Mr. Holmes: How you're doing everybody? I'm Steven Holmes I'm new to North Miami.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Can you say your address please?

Mr. Holmes: Yeah 195 N.E. 127th Street in the Breezeswept Community. And I submitted a petition already to have traffic calming devices installed from N.E. 2nd Avenue from 125th to 135th. I have a corner unit and we get a bunch of traffic, a lot of speeding. So if you guys can find some funds in the Budget to implement those speed humps or perhaps more stop signs that would be greatly appreciated.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: I know about it. I live in the area and I think 2nd Northeast it's a County road. And I'm planning to have a meeting with the Commissioner, Commissioner Jean Monestime to see if the County can spend some money on not only the street but also the swales. And we're working on that. Thank you very much.

Ms. Bruce: Good evening my name is Nadine Bruce. I'm here on behalf of North Miami Adult Education. We would like to thank the community for the grant that was awarded for the student last year in the amount of \$50,000.00. And this year you know we would like to see if there's a way in the Budget that they could increase it a little bit more. Because it was awarded like \$400.00 per student but we would like to see if they could allocate \$1,000.00 per student. It would make a real difference. And so far we have made a big difference in the life of the students because we do believe in education. So tonight we have some of the students down here that are with us. And they would like to thank everyone.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: I have a question. How much from that money that was allocated for that you spent?

Ms. Bruce: We still have some money left but at this present time we're still doing the registration until the 18th of September. So whatever is left will be used.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: And the problem is every time money is allocated for something, if you don't spend the whole amount that mean you can not come in and ask for more. Since last year you did not spend the full amount, that's a problem I think about your request.

Ms. Bruce: I do understand.

Councilwoman Steril: I did speak to Mr. Ridore today or toward the week. I think one of the...because I did share my concern. Because I told him that as government if we give you money if you don't spend the entire fund, we were going to have to request and we can't actually allocate the same amount. But the issue that they explained to me administratively we told them that they can only spend \$400.00 per student. While the school actually billed some of them \$2,000.00 or \$4,000.00, so the amount that we actually give to the student is not compatible with the amount of money that they actually spent. So what Madame Bruce is asking is that, instead of giving \$400.00 per student, we can actually allocate \$1,000.00. I think this can actually talk to the administration and then they can bring it back to us to see how you guys can actually...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Okay it's not asking for more money in the Budget but it's for more money per student.

Ms. Bruce: Yeah.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: This has got to be through the City Manager and the administration. You're going to have to speak to them about it.

Ms. Bruce: Thanks, thanks a lot.

City Manager Ghany: Isn't that done on the guidelines for the program?

Councilwoman Steril: Yeah we have to bring it back.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Public Hearing is open on the Budget.

Ms. Balto: Good evening, my name is Alexandre Balto. I'm the Executive Director of the Haitian American Historical Museum. I come here to speak on behalf of the Board of the Haitian American Historical Society, which is well known for the Haitian Monument in Savannah, Georgia. We moved in the lovely City of North Miami in 2011 and we have been operating with no support from the City since 2011. And this

is the first time that we are requesting to be included in the Budget. We have made a proposal for some funds and we have been very successful in working with the School Board. For the month of May we had over 500 children. We also worked with...we're members with the Greater Miami Convention Bureau and we intend to work with the diverse communities to bring economic development, education and better knowledge of our common history. And we are hoping that the Honorable Mayor and Council members will support our proposition.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: You know the Budget...we have the Budget now. Are they in the Budget?

Mr. Sorey: No sir.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: I am not aware of any proposal of any plan...

Mr. Sorey: I didn't receive any proposal from...myself I didn't receive it.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: That's a problem because when we're putting the Budget together throughout the year. Right now it's like we have the Budget ready to go. And that's when you come and request money and I don't know what the Council are going to say about it but I didn't know about it. And I don't think it's in the Budget. And I don't know if the Council...

Ms. Balto: What...we are well known for our monument that is in Savannah and we were on our way to Savannah when I brought the proposal.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: We understand.

Ms. Balto: I brought it Thursday evening but it was addressed to each Council member and that's probably why...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: But when we're working on the Budget it's three, four, five months before, prior to today.

Ms. Balto: It's our first time so we're very sorry about that. But this is a request for \$75,000.00.

Councilwoman Steril: I know that you guys have a good relationship with MoCA way back then. Do you guys actually work in...how's the relationship right now? Because I would like to see that you guys do...I know about the monument in Savannah. I know that you guys actually relocate yourself to the City and I see the way that you guys have been done. But the thing is, we have not seen the participation or the relationship between the...your museum for lack of, I don't remember your name; the

Haitian Historical Museum. So with MoCA have you guys sit with Babacar to see how you guys can...

Ms. Balto: Well we have to say that we did not finish renovating the building until August of this year although we moved in 2011. We work with the CRA that funded...that donated...that sponsored \$25,000.00 of our renovation of the building. And we only open in August of 2013.

Unidentified Male Voice: (Name indistinct), Chairman of the Haitian American Historical Society. We've been here for the past two years. We've never get any help from the City, not even seed money and you were there when we started operation for the inauguration. We need get a penny from the City. We've been spending our own money and we begin our economic development for the City. And it's about we'd like to request first time to have some seed money so we can stay in operation.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: We understand. The only thing I said that, I wasn't aware of that and I don't have any request. They didn't bring any request to my attention. And usually when we putting the Budget together, it's three, four, five months prior to today.

Unidentified Male Voice: We understand that. The only person that answered back to us was Councilman Scott Galvin.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: I never got anything.

Unidentified Male Voice: But he submitted everything to...he received.

Councilwoman Steril: So don't worry. Scott will take care of it.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Okay, I did not receive it.

Ms. Balto: We want to thank you for...

Councilwoman Steril: You good. Scott got it, I'll support Scott.

Ms. Balto: Thank you.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: And Public Hearing is open on the Budget.

Mr. Prevatel: Good evening everyone. Roy Prevatel, 11950 North Bayshore Drive. I'm going to repeat a question that's come through the Planning Commission that's also been discussed at some of the meetings of the downtown committee. And that is streetscape and plantings and such. I'd like to see our efforts

ramped up in this...toward this end. We've talked a lot about improving individual properties and privatized improvements and façade plans and such. Yet if we were to increase the landscaping, the tree scape throughout the City, I think we would greatly improve the values of the individual neighborhoods and the City itself. Sometimes we can drive by a neighborhood and you come apart an area that's sort of barren. There are no street trees, sometimes the homes do not have any landscaping. And I think all of us get that sense of devaluation that it's a challenged neighborhood. Now we may not be able to landscape everybody's individual house but certainly we can do something with the City of North Miami property at the sidewalks where we can plant as much as possible. This goes for every district in the City and it should go...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Especially mine.

Mr. Prevatel: Particularly yours. Anyone with all these stretches without landscaping. And if we do it early, if we put this investment in now it starts to pay off greatly as the years go on. We can buy inexpensive small trees now. They grow into large trees that become great value to the neighborhood. And I think it fosters a better sense of community...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: That means you'd like to see more trees?

Mr. Prevatel: Exactly and to that end. This is not throwing tens of millions of dollars in. We're talking about maybe a few hundred thousand dollars at a time. And it doesn't have to go on forever. If we get these trees in place now, these saplings, they will grow into larger nicer trees.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: It's a lot of money because I spoke to Mr. Pierre-Louis, the Public Works Director and we were...I was requesting a quote about trees. And he told me it's about three, \$400.00 per tree. That's a lot of money.

Mr. Prevatel: Not all.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Mr. City Manager...

City Manager Ghany: Like oaks about 10 to 12 foot tall would run us about \$250 to \$300.00.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: But you can put a note on the request like you need more trees and I even request that. And I even asked Public Works Director to put that on his Budget because I would like to see more trees in my district.

Mr. Prevatel: And to fill in wherever these barren spots are throughout the entire City. Just as one more note, it's not necessarily tangent to this Budget. But for the

individual homes in regards to plantings, for individual homes maybe the City could foster a certain day of the month or a certain weekend and make an arrangement with a wholesale planting organization to bring in a truck load. We get either City employees or boy scouts or something like that to say, we're going to sale wholesale plants to people of North Miami who have a North Miami ID. You want to improve your property; we'll help you do it. We get to bring the things in at bulk at a discount. They get to take advantage of that, everybody wins. Just a thought, thank you very much.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Thank you very much. And I hope Natasha take notes to see if there's any grant available for trees.

Councilman Galvin: If I can jump in, Commissioner Monestime is giving away trees this weekend at the Miami-Dade North Campus. I'm trying to...the internet is slow today so I'm trying to pull up my email from him. But the County has a program that already exists. It's giving away thousands of trees this weekend. I think its Saturday at the Miami-Dade North, so contact the Commissioner.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Natasha please.

Mr. Burns: Good evening, name and address, right? Do I have to give a name and address tonight? Okay Kevin Burns, 2025 Alamanda Drive. Continuing on the conversation or the item that you mentioned Mr. Bien-Aime, is that the Building Department and I'm glad that some people are listening to the conversations that are taken place during the campaign. Our Building Department is one of the worst operated or functioning that we have and the complaints that many, many people in this City have voiced. I believe that the City Manager could do a better job taking the services that are provided back in house like it used to be. You're allocating \$700,000.00 to the outside private contractor. \$700,000.00 plus 70%....70 on the dollar of the fee or the permits I understand. Seventy cents on the dollar goes to that company. I think it's (name indistinct) or whatever it is. \$700,000.00 to do the plan reviews and so forth according to what was in the Budget. That could pay for five, six in house people. It's not unusual to have your plans lost over there. It's not unusual to have the different information depending on which inspector you're dealing with. So I think your suggestion of a workshop is actually very critical to how you want this City to grow in the future. It's very important because that generates and always has for years a large sum of money for the City. It also operated in the black and it added to our revenue. And since it has been privatized it has not been functioning that well. Also, as far as the permitting process, we pay an extra fee that's called a...I think its written in there as a training fee, educational fee, small dollar amount and I understand there's about 30, \$40,000.00 in this fund to train employees within the department and help continue their education. I haven't found that in the Budget anywhere but it's a fee that we collect. So if you can see if we're going to collect a fee that's supposed to train employees, let's spend it on them. If it's

not, quit collecting the fees from the residents. I don't understand it 100% but I know when we were pulling some permits that the fee was there. Thank you very much.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: And City Manager, you Building Department I told you since day, you don't even have to answer Mr. Burns because the whole department it's a mess and I think you need to fix and fix it quick. And you know there's way we're going to have a Building Department like that, you're talking about downtown. People are going to pull big permits. And how can you have a building department and a new development like Biscayne Landing, downtown and all that. And Mr. Burns talk about the outside and how you call that...

City Manager Ghany: It's a training and technology fee that is added onto your permit. Last Fiscal Year we had approximately \$7,000.00 that was collected. And it is used for training of staff in the Building Department.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: No what I was referring to its...your outsource some of the service. Can you imagine when Biscayne Landing is going to start pulling permits. One million dollar permit, \$700,000.00 is going to go to them out of that money. Bring it to the house will be the better idea. Public Hearing still open on the Budget, Public Hearing is open on the Budget; Public Hearing is open on the Budget. Mike? Public Hearing is closed on the Budget. Now Councilmembers. First we're going to start with Councilwoman Carol Keys.

Councilwoman Keys: Thank you. I have gone through this and I have spent time with Arthur and made a lot of comments. I don't know if the minor changes have been made, a few typos, a few dollars and cents. I did shave down about 20 and \$25,000.00 on miscellaneous items. I'm not going to go over those right now just money didn't belong. But I do have a few keen topics I'd like to just put on the record. One, I know that we have taken away our security contract for the front desk. I would...we have three public PSA, Public Service Aides. I would like to see if we either use one of those or add one more. I'd like to see a Public Service Aide be from our municipal plaza from the Police Department walking visible. Walking through by MoCA, walking into the City Hall instead of a security guard during the day, going up and down the elevators, going up the stairs just making a presence so people do feel safe. And instead of paying \$100,000.00, what was it a hundred or \$150,000.00 for security company. I'd rather see a couple of our own Officers just being visible walking the area.

Councilwoman Steril: You're going to pull them out of the street to put them...

Councilwoman Keys: I'm saying instead of spending \$150,000.00 on a security company for one man sitting at a desk downstairs, I'd rather spend 30, \$40,000.00 on an aide to be walking the entire municipal area. We'll save a lot of money.

Just a recommendation. I think having a presence of an Officer walking the municipal complex is nice and if there was a need, he could always be put on the street or allocated or assigned somewhere else.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: What about if we put like a secretary down there and then the aide going to...instead of putting a guard.

Councilwoman Keys: We're talking a security guard in a uniform. I'd like to say uniform person walking in the municipal complex back and forth, around the parking lot. Just visible.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: What about inside?

Councilwoman Keys: Well they would be coming into City Hall. Walking up and down the stairs just...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: But are you thinking about putting an aide downstairs instead of a guard?

Councilwoman Keys: Not sitting there, no not someone sitting there at the front door saying hi.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: I'm talking about the security. I'm talking about maybe a civilian, a secretary downstairs.

City Manager Ghany: Basically customer service but we already have that at the window.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: The window is still too small for the amount of people coming in.

Councilwoman Keys: I just think the visibility. Knowing that there is a Police Officer walking on municipal complex, walking by MoCA for security and the parking lot; it's just a suggestion.

City Manager Ghany: I'll look into it.

Councilwoman Keys: Forensic audit, we took care of. We've allocated the \$200,000.00. MoCA legal, we're comfortable that we will not be having any extraordinary legal expenses in the upcoming year?

City Attorney Monestime: That is correct. We anticipate that the issue will be resolved before the end of the year.

Councilwoman Keys: Next we have an IRS review coming up. We could...we haven't allocated for any possible penalties which could range from 0 to several hundred thousand dollars from what I'm understanding. And where are we going to get any penalties that were assessed, cause we have not allocated for that.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: I don't think we should allocate any money for just...

Councilwoman Keys: I'm just putting on the record that we...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: She want us to put that on the record.

Councilwoman Keys: That we do understand there is a potential expense.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Whatever it is as responsible Council we will address that when the time comes.

Councilwoman Keys: Library books. We haven't for years and there was money allocated before. But our allocation for books, books for reference, subscriptions, non-print EBooks is 0, 0, 0. Why don't we...where are we getting money for our books for our Library?

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Do you have anything in the Budget for books?

Mr. Sorey: I believe that...

Councilwoman Keys: Page 121.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: There is nothing, okay. Do you have any grants, money coming in for books?

Ms. Gonzalez: Well at this time the way we have been able to purchase some materials for the Library, whatever money we have leftover from State Aid which we get to operate the Library on Sundays, we're able to purchase minimal amount of books for the Library.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: When you are putting the Budget together, you didn't make any request to Budget that you need books for the Library, didn't you?

Mr. Sorey: We do get requests from departments. But we have been using some State Aid money and some of the old E. May Avil money also to buy books when necessary.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: How much money you're talking about?

Mr. Sorey: I'm not sure how much is left in E. May Avil at the moment. Well I could tell you but I don't have it...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Do you have a suggestion?

Councilwoman Keys: I have none. This is just something I came up with when I was speaking with Arthur I guess Monday. And I realized I'm looking, there's no money for books. I'm looking to cut money but I'm looking again and I see there's no allocation for books. And I spoke to the Manager and said oh we have EBooks but there's no money for EBooks. You know we may not want the hard print and I don't know...I have no idea of the numbers but I think we should think about it. And if we've got some money to allocate our Librarian could...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: If you make a proposal we...

Councilwoman Keys: I don't have a number. I'm just saying, there's nothing in here for books for our citizens.

Mr. Sorey: We will work with the Library Department and determine how much is needed. It'll be a fair amount for books and we'll bring it back to the Council for next meeting.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Thank you very much.

Councilwoman Keys: Next we discussed this last evening. Nothing we can discuss this evening but I do want to put it out there. That our water rate study is coming up and will be available next week. And there may be a grudge amount that need to be set aside to help the citizens, taxpayers with second water meters. And we have no idea what that amount is but it's something that will have to be addressed hopefully before next Monday. If not, I guess we as Councilman Galvin recommended, we're going to have to amend our Budget if everybody agrees.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: It's not going to come from your Enterprise Fund?

City Manager Ghany: Yeah it will come from the Water & Sewer as mentioned by the Budget Director. There is an allocation in there.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: They have allocation for it in the Enterprise Fund from utility.

City Manager Ghany: It's from the utility, yes.

Councilwoman Keys: One thing I did notice we haven't changed. And it's about an \$8,000.00 item. We have allocated 12 months for Mayor's expenses and salary. And I think we're only going to have this year 10 and a half months' worth of expenses for the Mayor.

Councilwoman Steril: What?

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: For meals?

City Manager Ghany: I think what she's saying is that the Mayor will effectively be in position from November...

Councilwoman Keys: Mid November.

City Manager Ghany: There's a savings of about a month and a half salary, a salary savings of a month and a half.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: For?

City Manager Ghany: For the elected Mayor's position.

Councilwoman Keys: We're going to have a month and a half savings cause we're still short one elected official. So there's a month and a half of money in there that we don't need to allocate.

City Manager Ghany: We found the money for your Library books.

Councilman Galvin: I'm getting ready to suggest a whole lot more than that.

Councilwoman Keys: Going through I don't have anything...I did speak specifically. I think our travel and conferences is way high. I think between the different departments and Council, there's a lot of money budgeted for a lot of conferences that we don't really need to budget for. So I'm just going to bring that out.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: The administration can look at it and see.

Councilwoman Keys: We've got conferences and conferences and conferences. And we just do not need to go to all of these and we don't need Staff to attend all these conferences.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: You can take money there for books.

Councilwoman Keys: We're going to have a lot of books. I was going to bring up but I will be redundant. Licenses and permits; we're projecting a million 280 in permits this year. And outsource Kap Management is getting \$700,000.00. I can't imagine that a company need \$700,000.00 to process the permits that we have in house. I think we...and I haven't gone through the employees and all this. I know that our Budget needs a serious overhaul. We do need a qualified Building Director. We no longer have a Building Director. We do need one with the proper licenses. We did make money...we did have a good permitting department. We did make money and outsourcing this type of work when we have Biscayne Landing with millions and millions of building permits coming onboard is just crazy to be giving 70% of all permit fees away.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: If I can share that with you, I spoke to Mr. Aleem Ghany about it. And he show me put together a plan and step by step to hire license permit person to do that in house. And now we have the RFQ for Building Official...

City Manager Ghany: The Building Official is actually posted. And...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: You're going to need diploma and all those certified agents to bring everything in house. Then we can save money.

Councilwoman Keys: Mr. Ghany I think is very capable of putting our Building Department back together, which then ties in with Code Enforcement. And I've been meeting with Code Enforcement, Building and the Police Department and the Police says it's Code and Building and Building says it's Police. So I've been pushing along with I'm sure all the other Council to get a cohesive Code Enforcement Department and the adequate amount of building inspectors. We've lost a lot of people during the last E-Rip. So we have...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: We have two many people...too many Code Enforcement outside and we don't know what they're doing.

Councilwoman Keys: They have to all come together.

City Manager Ghany: Everything was brought under the umbrella of the...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: You need to fix those two departments.

City Manager Ghany: I am fixing them right now.

Councilwoman Keys: I mean there's a Code Enforcement allocation in Public Works. It doesn't belong there it needs...but I've spoken to Mr. Ghany but it doesn't belong there. It needs to go with the Code Enforcement Team. We had a lot of constituents here for the Dog Park. I think we've handled it, thank you Councilman Galvin. He has allocated \$25,000.00 of construction I understand towards helping us do a Dog Park in North Bayshore. People have been asking for that for a long time. So I know that's in the works. If we can do a Dog Park anywhere else in the City, great. I don't know where. Maybe some place we have more land where we have more room where we can do that also. We allocated \$300,000.00 to the Biscayne Landing maintenance. I know that contract is coming up. I have spoken to Mr. Ghany over the past year and I believe that we can do it in house for a lot less. I'm not trying to do away with it. But I think \$300,000.00 is a lot for that item. I think we do need to budget for it, but I think we could budget for it maybe around 150 or \$200,000.00 max. And lastly, I have made a request, I've been asking for a long time. It's not a popular subject but I would like to see our Board of Adjustment agendas our Planning agendas and our Council agendas published in the Miami Herald. I don't care where else you publish them. I do not believe that too many people subscribe to a \$350.00 annual Daily Business Review. People are not seeing that. People don't automatically get online or have to wait to see that. And I know that it is the minimum requirement that we post these items, agendas in the Daily Business Review but I think as a Councilperson I have the ability and the way to give more to the constituents and taxpayers and request that we spend a little extra money and advertise. I've really been pushing for years transparency. People want to know what's going on. I think we took it out cause we didn't want people to know what's going on. And I would really like to see money for the Miami Herald. And I spoke to Mr. Sorey...the Board of Adjustment publications is not even...there's not even a line item for it. I know it needs to go in there.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: When it comes to the publication I think the City Manager and the Budget Department can find out and see how much it's going to cost. Maybe at our next Budget Hearing and then you can bring it up and we can decide whether or not we want to publish in anything like that.

Councilwoman Keys: I've asked for those numbers but I think our citizens want it and deserve it. And they just want more than the bear minimum legal requirement.

City Manager Ghany: Just for clarification, the Board of Adjustment, Planning Commission and City Council agendas, those are the three?

City Clerk Etienne: Just for the record...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Give me a second.

City Manager Ghany: The Board of Adjustment, Planning Commission and City Council agendas are those the three?

Councilwoman Keys: That's what people want to know what's going on. What kind of variances are given next door to them, cross the street, what are they planning on rezoning a piece of property across from them. People have no idea.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: You were going to say something.

City Clerk Etienne: I'm not...that's something different from our publication. I am not requesting an increase in my budget. Cause within our Budget we have six primary vendors, La Ponderosa Spanish radio, 1170 Caribbean/English, The Bishop Curry Station WMBM, which is a highly prominent African American radio station, WLQY 1320 Radio Mega and the Daily Business Review. What I'm required to do by Charter which is publish the Council notices. I'm not requesting a budget increase (inaudible – simultaneous discussion)

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: We know that.

City Clerk Etienne: Her increase was for something else...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: No it's the Council.

City Clerk Etienne: I just want to make it clear that my department is not requesting an increase. I think our Budget is perfect. So if you guys have to increase elsewhere that's fine. But us, we're good. So you guys don't have to give me more money, that's what I'm saying.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: We're not thinking about you. That's why I address the City Manager not the Clerk Department.

City Manager Ghany: I made a note of all the...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Yeah and find and see exactly how much it's going to cost in order to...and see how much it is.

Councilwoman Keys: That's it for now.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Now Councilman Scott Galvin.

Councilman Galvin: Thank you, thank you Mr. Mayor. I'll try to blow through this quickly. First to the presentation made by Mr. Sorey, you mentioned that pension costs are up by one million. Can you explain in laymen terms what that means?

Mr. Sorey: Basically they're assumptions in the pension. Our pension is with...actuary that takes care of the pension and it did go up by a million dollars this year.

Councilman Galvin: We're talking about...do you mean it's going to be up by a million in Fiscal 2014-15?

Mr. Sorey: Yes sir.

Councilman Galvin: So we're going to pay a million more into pensions in the coming Budget year?

Mr. Sorey: Yes sir.

Councilman Galvin: Why?

Mr. Sorey: The reason given by the actuary was a couple. It was the lump sum payment that we did do in 2012.

Councilman Galvin: Is that the E-Rip?

Councilwoman Steril: No.

Mr. Sorey: Not that E-rip. This has nothing to do with the E-Rip. The lump sum payment when we did...we received the money from Biscayne Landing. We paid out approximately about \$1.1 million dollars for employees who had been taken furlough days for the years. Remember we did the furlough day payback.

Councilman Galvin: Yeah we made people whole again.

Mr. Sorey: We made people whole again. Well the pension, the actuary's they took that as an increase. They said we gave raises.

Councilman Galvin: But we didn't give a raise? It was a one-time payment.

Mr. Sorey: That's what we said. It was a one-time payment. They looked at it as a raise that we gave employees raises. And that was the major contributing factor.

Councilman Galvin: So the actuary says we have to pay a million more in the next year for something we didn't do?

Mr. Sorey: That's my argument as well, yes.

Councilman Galvin: Okay so how do we back you up on your argument? Because if we...if we just gave somebody a bonus essentially, not a raise then the actuary is incorrect. That raise is not there this year it was that one time. So how we do fix that, that's a million dollars?

City Manager Ghany: At the next Budget Hearing I'll have the actuary and the Budget...the Pension Administrator here.

Councilwoman Steril: Can I piggy back on that?

Councilman Galvin: Absolutely.

Councilwoman Steril: So the three furlough days that we're giving back, is that the contributing factor?

Mr. Sorey: No. This was back in 2012. We actually paid everybody for two years worth of furlough days. But we're doing the three furlough days going forward next year. We're just taking the...Staff won't have to take furlough days. We're not giving a raise or anything we're just taking away the furlough days they won't have to take.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: You give them a 2% COLA also.

Mr. Sorey: Well we're giving them a 2% COLA.

Councilwoman Steril: Do you guys...cause I'm getting to understand that, administration never talked to the Pension Board regarding that. But did you guys actually address that now? Because furlough days are trusted as money, so we are giving them more money which...

City Manager Ghany: Which will do a or have a pension increase, that's correct.

Councilwoman Steril: So we will have a pension increase. Is that part of the one million or that's another additional money that you guys have not taken into account?

Mr. Sorey: If it is part of it, then no. It wouldn't be...that won't be recognized until the following year. Pension numbers are always...

Councilwoman Steril: In 15-16?

Mr. Sorey: Yes, pension numbers are always a year in the...

City Manager Ghany: One year behind.

Mr. Sorey: They go off the numbers from the year prior. So we're a year behind on the pension numbers and that's just how it happens. So we won't see it this year, you'll see it the following year.

Councilman Galvin: So to me that's significant if we're able to bring the actuary into our world and get them to say, okay you don't have those pension costs. That's a million dollars we just saved.

Mr. Sorey: And I did ask those questions on the actuary. And the response that I was given although I know the word of the Council would be more than mine but the response was that, they've already made pension assumptions off of that. E-Rip people have left and their pension is based on that. So they are saying that some people that have already left because I asked why couldn't they just...I told them, I said, I didn't agree with them. Why couldn't you reverse it? And they said, well it's already you know people have already taken pensions based on that.

Councilwoman Steril: Yeah but that's not our mistake, that's their mistake.

Mr. Sorey: I agree.

Councilman Galvin: That's their assumption. They're crediting that as a pay raise, it's a bonus.

Councilwoman Steril: Madame City Attorney.

Councilman Galvin: And that is a significant difference.

Councilwoman Steril: Maybe the attorney should clarify it for us.

City Attorney Monestime: Clarify in terms of?

Councilwoman Steril: Are we in our legal rights not wanting to pay the pension regarding of the bonus or are they in their rights to charge us as a raise?

City Attorney Monestime: We have to meet with them and I'd figure it out the best way to address it. I couldn't give you an answer right now.

Councilwoman Steril: So we'd probably have a million dollars somewhere that we can actually allocate back to the Budget.

Councilman Galvin: Yeah there's a lot of things we can do. On the water rate, I know the study is not prepared and finalized yet. But do we have any insight at all into what it's going to tell us? Are we totally blind right now? Or do you have some sort of hint as to what it's...what it might look like?

City Manager Ghany: We are totally blind. I spoke to the consultant this afternoon. I actually spoke to him around 5 o'clock today. The report...the draft report that I mentioned last night will be here in the City on the 18th of September. So by the Second Budget Hearing we will definitely have the numbers that you will be looking at.

Councilman Galvin: One of my biggest issues as well as the Councilwoman's is the second water meter charge. And whatever financial impact I'm going to say, let's just make this number up right now. It's going to be \$50,000.00 to switch charges back. It's going to impact that...I want us to know if there's \$50,000.00 that we want to switch around, where will it come from? If that's from Enterprise, if that's from Utility, okay. But just as long as we're able to identify it. So if on the Second Budget night if we want to make changes to put our billing rates back to what they used to be, that we know where that's coming from on that Second Budget night so that we're not caught off guard.

City Manager Ghany: That will be on the Utility Fund. And there's a line item budgeted in there to take into consideration any credits that will be given based on direction from the Council.

Councilman Galvin: Okay, thank you. We've got a lot of money set aside for Capital Projects and I applaud that. I think that's good. Sidewalks, landscaping and the like are always good things. Are your proposals tonight district specific or are they sort of open ended? In other words, if in six months I want to pave five sidewalks in District one, will that kind of money be there? Or are we approving district specific Capital Improvements?

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: District three only.

Councilwoman Steril: You are the Acting Mayor not a district. So you should represent all of us.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: I'm just joking.

Councilman Galvin: Look I gave District one money to District two to do the Dog Park because the people in District one want it as much as...like I don't...I've lived here my whole life, I'm not so much about districts. I just want to make sure that I don't pigeon hole myself by voting for a Budget. But then when I want it of my district,

we go well, I know there's \$2,000,000.00 for Capital Improvements in the Budget but they're for everybody else but you.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Yeah but let me say something Councilman Scott Galvin. Capital Improvements it's a very, very important issue for me. And I've been driving throughout the district, District three. And people are telling me we have streets that have not been paved for the past 27 years. That means it's a very, very important for me. That's why I asked Budget, I asked the City Manager to make sure we have money for Capital Improvements throughout the City. It's throughout the City. It's not for my district. The \$700,000.00 is throughout the City of North Miami. District one, District two, District three, District four.

Councilwoman Steril: Really?

Councilman Galvin: And that's all I can ask. I just want to make sure...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: But when you say six months from now but if District one have projects for six, \$700,000.00 and by October all the studies have been done but it's throughout the City. It's not for one district.

Councilman Galvin: That's all I can ask. I just wanted to...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: It's like last year we had \$700,000.00 for Capital Improvements...

Councilwoman Steril: And you take it all.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: No, no.

Councilwoman Steril: You didn't?

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: I take \$181,000.00 for sidewalks. And Councilwoman Carol Keys took \$200,000.00 and you took the rest, you and Councilman Scott Galvin.

City Manager Ghany: I just want to mention one thing. You know Capital Improvements per district is fine. But you got to understand when you're doing infrastructure improvements, sidewalks. Northeast 5th Avenue in your district, which we rode several times. The whole thing...

Councilwoman Steril: Northeast?

City Manager Ghany: Sorry northwest 5th Avenue. All those sidewalks need to be replaced. Councilwoman Keys district along Keystone Boulevard, several...again as the Public Works Director and myself meet, I think we will prioritize the areas that require the improvements. It doesn't matter what district.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: And there's a flooded area, I don't know what district it is.

Councilwoman Steril: Your district.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: By LA Fitness and Casa Mia.

City Manager Ghany: Correct.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Any small one inch of rain flood that area. And that's a big flooded area and I was passing by. And even the plaza the Arch Creek Plaza where you have Walgreens and that (inaudible), that need to be addressed. It's not just a district, it's throughout the City.

City Manager Ghany: That's (inaudible – simultaneous discussion).

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: We don't have any problem when I'm driving...

City Manager Ghany: We will prioritize based on the needs as the Public Works Director and myself see fit.

Councilwoman Steril: As long as all the money does not go to District three, we're fine. We're just fighting against District three.

City Manager Ghany: I will try to prioritize as well. Again some of the bridges we need to address those in Keystone. Every year FDOT does the inspection of the bridges. Those are critical items that must be addressed. Those will be land lot parcels if you don't address it. So all of these are allocations that will be coming out of that to address some of those capital needs.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: What about the bridge at Arch Creek East?

City Manager Ghany: That is complete.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: That project is done in the back? Okay.

Councilwoman Steril: Mr. Mayor, but it is...I think that we're still stealing from Scott. Let me wait for Scott to finish because Pepper Park I have not heard about.

Councilman Galvin: I'll be quick. On furlough days, I realize we're only down to three but I have a personal request. Don't mix them in with existing three day weekends so that Staff gets a four day weekend. I know that's nice for Staff but it creates absolute chaos for the residents and the businesses who can't do business at the City. And if possible, stagger them so that some departments are open, some departments are closed. But it's not a City Hall, City wide shut down. Especially this last...I think it was Labor Day weekend, I must have gotten 20 phone calls at home over the weekend from people who showed up here to pay water bills, to get their business tax receipts, etcetera, etcetera and City Hall was just unexpectedly closed. So I'm glad we're only down to three furlough days. But if we can, please stagger them. Make them a random Wednesday. I know that Staff loves that four day weekend. Hey we made you whole for the rest of them anyway.

City Manager Ghany: It was discussed with Budget today. And we did say that what we're going to do is, we can make it flexible. (Inaudible) departments will have it and (inaudible) departments. It all depends. But City Hall and all major departments that receives money will be open.

Councilman Galvin: Thank you. On the privatization of our Building Inspections, that contract with KAP. How much longer is there? Only maybe a year with that contract?

City Manager Ghany: I think it's one more year.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: 2015.

City Manager Ghany: One more year.

Councilman Galvin: So we're legally bound to work with them for the next year?

City Attorney Monestime: Most if not all of our contracts have a early termination clause without penalties. Let me look at the agreement and we can ensure that you...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: But before we do that we have to...I was talking to you about it. And you said there is some steps that need to be taken before...

City Manager Ghany: Right. Hiring of Building Inspectors, the Plumbing Inspectors and all of that must be done prior to doing away with the contract.

Councilman Galvin: I have to say Fritz Armand who only worked for us a little while but whom I had great respect for and was so sorry to see him leave. One of the exit interviews things that he shared with him, is that he said Scott we are killing ourselves with this privatization of the Building Inspections. We need to bring that back in house. And like Councilwoman Keys just said, if we're giving away \$700,000.00 out of \$1.2 million to a private business for work we could be doing in house, again that's an amazing amount of money. And that's only going to go up right now because we're finally doing stuff downtown. We're finally going to see stuff happening at Biscayne Landing. And...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Imagine one permit for \$1,000,000.00 they get \$700,000.00 plus an inspection fee.

City Manager Ghany: The (inaudible) alone is over \$5,000,000.00.

Councilman Galvin: So I'm in favor of bringing that back in house. In fact, I voted against the privatization two years ago. So I'm not any different than I was then. Outside legal, I'm incredibly frustrated with the lack of progress in the MoCA negotiations. I'm ready to go back to court.

City Attorney Monestime: Can we discuss...because it's a pending litigation matter, can we discuss this is in Executive Session rather than discuss it...

Councilman Galvin: Or you can help me get Judge Farina back on the phone again. Because like I said to him three weeks ago, two weeks ago, our next Council meeting is September 9th. If there's no progress by September 9th, I'm ready to go nuclear. So I'm ready to go...

City Attorney Monestime: I would caution us...

Councilwoman Steril: You cannot discuss it up here.

Councilman Galvin: Okay I'm not going to say anything more about that. But I'd like to take \$100,000.00 out of the \$300,000.00 we have for the Biscayne Landing Management contract and redirect it to outside counsel expenses. So that's going to be something I'm going to be looking for three votes tonight.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: How much money do you have for outside counsel for this year?

City Manager Ghany: \$88,000.00.

City Attorney Monestime: \$88,000.00, thank you.

Councilman Galvin: So I'm essentially looking to immediately double your outside counsel budget for any purpose that might come along. I'd also like to take another \$50,000.00 from the Biscayne Landing Management Contract and reallocate that to the Library for books, DVDs and any other sort of publication they might fill the need that they're good for. Our Library has to be a good resource material location. My mom is thrilled. She's going through a phase with the Broward County Library system where she's going and checking out books. And she's like, did you know you can get...what do you call it, tablet books and you can download them and you can get DVDs and you can rent...we need to make sure we're doing all this money with the facility. And if the building looks pretty and it's got nice furniture that's one thing. But there has to be something that's going to bring people in. So I'd like to suggest \$50,000.00 for publications whether they be electronic or hard copy.

City Manager Ghany: So that's \$50,000.00 for the Library, DVDs, EBooks, etcetera?

Councilman Galvin: Correct. And \$100,000.00 towards outside legal counsel which is right now budgeted at \$84,488.00.

Councilman Galvin: Correct. I'd like to ask for an additional \$30,000.00 for Keystone Park improvements. The fences that surround are old and dilapidated; they're the original fences from the 1980's. There's been an ask for potentially some beach volleyball there. And I know we're putting in a community garden but there's still a lot of open space. Potentially that could be beach volleyball. So I'd like to ask for another \$30,000.00 allocated towards Keystone Park improvements.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: From where?

Councilman Galvin: If necessary from the Biscayne Landing Management but if not from there, from somewhere.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: But you have Capital Improvements and this can be a part of Capital Improvements.

Councilman Galvin: Can I allocate \$30,000.00 from...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: You don't need to. The money is already allocated for Capital Improvements.

Councilwoman Steril: You just tell them what you want.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: You just got to identify the title and tell him this is the project that you have.

Councilman Galvin: Well I have been making requests like this to Staff for months and...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Now out of that \$700,000.00 you put that as one of the first requests.

Councilman Galvin: There's also a pocket park, well not a pocket part but it's a field of mulch on N.W. 135th Street and about 4th Avenue and I know Councilwoman this is in your district. So if you're cool with this...

Councilwoman Steril: Only there?

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: He's talking about the nice entrance...

Councilwoman Steril: I'm sorry what's the address you said?

Councilman Galvin: 135th and northwest...

Councilwoman Steril: Second Avenue?

Councilman Galvin: No it's about northwest 4th maybe northwest 3rd. You're headed toward I-95.

Councilwoman Steril: Okay the one that I talk to you about. It's just like a little something...

Councilman Galvin: It's like a little triangle. It's got an old swing set and a bunch of mulch and that's all.

Councilwoman Steril: We did talk about that.

Councilman Galvin: If there's something we can do to put some shade sails in there and maybe some picnic tables.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: It's unsafe. It's better to put landscape and make the entrance...

Councilman Galvin: Whatever but at this stage...

City Manager Ghany: We have a beautification project and landscaping.

Councilman Galvin: If you've got something there and fill me in on what you've got in mind. But it's just ugly. I literally drive past it to the office every day and

I would hope we would do something there. And then what Councilwoman suggested about the public service and the uniform walking around. Maybe instead of that, we can come up with a greeter who's smiling. Who's not in a uniform, like less of a Police state and more of a welcoming situation. Where is somebody's coming in and who doesn't know where departments are...

City Manager Ghany: Customer service.

Councilman Galvin: A customer service person who greets them. The airport does this, like a Walmart greeter. But somebody who says, hi...

Councilwoman Steril: What about a Macy's greeter?

Councilman Galvin: I just don't like...I was never comfortable with putting security in the lobby. Because I don't like people feeling like they walk into their City Hall and it's a Police situation. I want it to be welcoming. I want it to be warm. So rather than a PSA who's walking around in uniform maybe a greeter, that's my suggestion. And the last question I had was page 41 of the Budget. Sister City program, it just says Sister City program \$10,000.00. Last night the Councilwoman rightfully suggested that we maybe add a Sister City. But what would this \$10,000.00 go...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: What page?

Councilman Galvin: Page 41. What would this \$10,000.00 for the Sister City program be used for?

Mr. Sorey: Sister City's International is a program that was started maybe about five or six years ago. We have a Sister City in Delmar, Haiti. We also go to various events and functions for it. Every year we do spend the money as we're getting requests. We trade...but we do help them out with stuff and we just trade information on government with the Sister City. Last year we spent \$9,000.00.

Councilman Galvin: On? That's what I'm still not getting? We have Sister Cities; we might have another Sister City, what is this for? Is it for travel? Is it for education? Is it for...what is it for?

Mr. Sorey: If we can hold the question for a second, we're going to have the Governmental Affairs Manager discuss...the Chief of Staff will tell us...will give us more detail on the Sister City program.

Councilman Galvin: Okay then I'll reserve the right to ask more questions later. Thank you Mr. Mayor that's all I've got.

Councilwoman Steril: Yes, should I take some money from District three or I have enough money? I like to bother him. The permitting, I know that we have...everybody agree that we need to bring it back home. But from what I understand the reason that it was privatized we were in deficit. Wasn't that what happened?

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: You're talking about KAP Government?

Councilwoman Steril: Am I talking about something different? I'm not for it, I just want to know why...what was the reason that we actually privatized?

Mr. Sorey: Back then City Manager Johnson was evaluating the services. And the services back then were deemed not very well. And he was looking to make a change and he did investigate some other agencies that did use KAP Government. I believe City of Aventura and a couple of other municipalities, I don't know the names off the top of my head, do use KAP Government. Basically what it would do, the overall balance. The City would be in the positive. I believe we did at that time we had two vacancies in Building and Zoning. So we chose not to fill those positions and instead but if we did fill the positions the revenue, I think we were going to be in the negative by about \$200,000.00. Because nobody was building during the recession time the money was going down. Now we have seen an increase in revenues and as the potential of Biscayne Landing coming onboard and the downtown, then we probably will see increase revenues.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: That's when you're talking about when the real estate market was crashed.

Mr. Sorey: Exactly. Just going off of what the previous Manager had implemented. The only thing just to bring up, even if we do when Biscayne Landing does come in and downtown, we will see an increase number of permits coming in; a lot of permits. There is the possibility we would need to hire additional inspectors, additional permit clerks. So it might be an additional cost, so we just might want to evaluate the cost that will come about from the additional permitting. We might turn around and I'm not sure, I haven't done the numbers. But if we make an additional \$5,000,000.00 in permit fees, maybe our expenses go up by three or \$4,000,000.00. So the rate of return might not be as great as we anticipate it being if we have to hire more stuff, bring inspectors in house. Now we contract out the inspectors. We might bring in house. If we do bring them in house, now we're paying benefits, we're paying pension cost, we're paying all of these things on top of that.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: It's like you're paying now about 80 to 85% when you put the 70% plus and the amount that you charge for permitting.

Mr. Sorey: And I'm just bringing it up, I'm not sure if that's the numbers. And we very well might make more money than we do expend. But I'm just letting you know the possibilities and that's the stuff we would have to look at when we determine if we bring it in house.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: But what we need to understand now, even with KAP Government right now and staff that we have, we cannot compete with...we cannot deliver.

Councilwoman Steril: So the service is not being rendered.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: It's not there even with that.

Mr. Sorey: And that might be the issue, it just may be a service issue.

Councilwoman Steril: But where I was going, is that I just want us to keep in mind if we want to bring it back in house we have to budget for it. Because downtown is not going to start next month, I hope soon but not anytime soon. And Biscayne Landing is not going to start in the next two months. But if we choose to bring it back with this Budget season, we have to understand that we have to Budget for the Staff that we'll be hiring. And it will not be compatible with the money that we're bringing in.

Mr. Sorey: Through the City Manager, if we do bring it back in house, we still have \$700,000.00 that's budgeted for expenses for KAP Government. So if we do make a decision before the end of the year, we do have \$700,000.00 that we anticipate spending with KAP that we can use for employees or whatever we need to do.

Councilwoman Keys: May I say something regarding that? I...just you'll have an idea. I'm looking at the agenda package from October 2011. And we had on the...one of the agenda items was to rehire (name indistinct). So there is a company that actually did...we did hire to help us with the inspection permit fees. And their annual fee to help us do this inspection was \$150,480.00. So we chose not to go with that and we went four months later and hired KAP for 50% and raised it to 70%. So there was a company three years ago available to help us with our inspection, building inspection plan review services, \$150,000.00. So I'm just bringing that up cause that's...

Councilwoman Steril: Really it makes no difference to me which company the City chose to hire. My concern is that, I don't want to be so emotional, animated about a subject and we end up putting the City in more debt. So I'm giving Staff space to actually study that matter and make sure that if we chose to bring it in house, which doesn't make any difference to me. However, you guys choose to do it but the decision should be in the best interest of the City but not by emotion.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: And can I say something before you...it's not emotionally because I've working with Mr. Aleem Ghany for the past 30 days or more about those two departments. That means it's not just emotional. We've been working and trying to put the plan together.

Councilwoman Steril: I'm not accusing you. I did express my concern and I did meet with Mr. Fritz about it. So I know the issue is there but I just want Staff to actually make and come with a well-planned strategy to let us know exactly how they're going to do it. Not just...I want it to be in or I want it to be privatized. But if it's going to be privatized, how that will benefit the City or if you're going to keep it...bring it back in, how that will be. And that's my...

City Attorney Monestime: If I may Mayor to answer Councilman's Galvin question about the contract.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Which contract?

City Attorney Monestime: The contract with KAP. It was instituted in May 2012. It was a three-year contract and there was a 30 day termination clause with or without cause.

Councilman Galvin: So that takes us through most of the next Fiscal Year up until April.

City Attorney Monestime: No, no you have a 30-termination clause that any time with or without case.

Councilman Galvin: I misunderstood 30 days from the end of the contract.

City Attorney Monestime: No, no, no 30 days at any time.

Councilwoman Steril: The Water & Sewer I understand that we actually Budget money to buy more cars for the meter reader, is that what it is? What is it for?

City Manager Ghany: Its utility vehicles.

Mr. Sorey: Those are major utility vehicles. That's not for the meter reader, that's an outside company. The meter readers use their own vehicles.

Councilwoman Steril: Do we...is the electronic system that we're trying install, is it something that's going to happen this year or...

City Manager Ghany: As soon as funding is approved by the State, the money will be allocated to start implementing.

Councilwoman Steril: Claude Pepper Park. I did talk to you and I have been talking to Duke and the previous City Manager as well regarding the walking trail. It's a fact that we know that we have been having a lot of accidents on the southwest side of the park. I'm just going to leave it as that. Please see if we can come up, come back with how much that will cost us and what's the plan to actually the citizens. Because I know we're talking about elderly but it's everybody. This is the most used parked in the City. And it's not just us; the County wants to contribute people everywhere in the County actually use that park. Its two peak hours that I use the park as well. It's early in the morning between 5 o'clock in the morning people start walking in the park until nine. And by 5 o'clock...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: I never see you.

Councilwoman Steril: Because you don't come every night. You usually just stop by.

Councilman Galvin: She runs so fast you can't see her.

City Manager Ghany: No it is a park...any time you go around there you do see a lot of people using it. On the perimeter a lot of people us it running, jobbing, walking and there is a...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: I only use the inside.

Councilwoman Steril: Which is around the building.

City Manager Ghany: We'll evaluate putting the nautilus course of the track on the inside.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Not only the track, if you can do an inside sidewalk...

City Manager Ghany: That's a nautilus track with the equipment and everything.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: I don't know about the equipment but the inside sidewalk. That's it? Okay now...

Mr. Sorey: Mayor, can you have Natasha address Councilman Galvin's question about Sister City.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Okay.

Mr. Sorey: Thank you sir.

Ms. Colebrook-Williams: Good evening. I understand the question was, what was Sister City's as well as what the \$10,000.00...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Can you use the mic?

Councilman Galvin: I know what the Sister City is. I want to know...we have \$10,000.00 budgeted for this upcoming Fiscal Year. It literally just on the one sheet of paper says, Sister City Program \$10,000.00. Whereas other pages have detail and breakdown, this just has that. So what is that \$10,000.00 for?

Ms. Colebrook-Williams: Okay. The \$10,000.00 includes membership dues for both the National Organization which is based in D.C. as well as the Florida affiliation which is all of South Florida. And it also includes travel to conferences and any type of training or programming that occurs related to the Sister City's International.

Councilman Galvin: May I just ask by second reading then that just like all of the other pages that are broken down, it has the large amount up top and then the sub sections. That we just subsection that off as well please so I know what I'm approving \$10,000.00 to go towards.

Ms. Colebrook-Williams: Absolutely.

Councilman Galvin: Thank you.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: I have no questions. All my questions have been answered by the Budget. And I'm ready to move forward with the Budget. I think...are we going to move it as it is or we're going to vote on the amendments one by one?

Mr. Sorey: I think Councilman Galvin had some stuff. Any changes that you would like to make I would prefer that you guys voted on the changes now and then I put them in the book and have the book back to you early next week. So I just don't want to assume anything. I just want to make sure we vote on the changes this evening so I can address...update the book accordingly.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: The first change was...

Councilwoman Steril: Madame City Attorney, if something was presented in the Budget and one of the members want to change, how do we pose the question?

City Attorney Monestime: That's really the Chair's discretion in terms how you want to manage the process. So can either go item by item. You can see if there are any objections to the specific items and if there are objections then you vote on the objections, would probably be the simpler way to do it and the quickest way to do it rather than go through each of the items. Perhaps the Budget Director can go through the items and if there are any objections then you can object to it. If not, then we can assume that they are adopted.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: The first one Councilwoman Keys.

Councilwoman Keys: One minor change and just going back to the 10 and a half for the elected official. Are we going to go back and address...are you going to go back and address and try to slim down some of the conferences?

Mr. Sorey: Yes I will work with the City Manager and we will look at the conferences.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: For this we don't have to vote on it. No major ones. And Councilman Scott Galvin and \$200,000.00 was allocated for Biscayne Landing Maintenance. You request \$50,000.00 for the Library, \$100,000.00 for outside counsel...

City Manager Ghany: Outside legal services.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Legal service or outside counsel. How much money do you have for outside?

City Manager Ghany: \$84,000.00.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Do you have another \$800,000.00 for something else?

Councilwoman Steril: \$800,000.00, that's the Budget.

Mr. Sorey: That's (inaudible) salary.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: You sure?

Mr. Sorey: There's no more.

Councilwoman Steril: Do you know how much outside counsel used to be \$600,000.00.

Mr. Sorey: Outside counsel used to be (inaudible –simultaneous discussion) over a million dollars.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: And how much it is?

City Attorney Monestime: \$84,000.00.

City Manager Ghany: \$488.00.

Councilman Galvin: I'll ask for another 100 to be added to that then.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: You want \$100,000.00 from the Biscayne or you want 100 from anywhere?

Councilman Galvin: You can take it from anywhere but my suggestion was \$300,000.00 from Biscayne Landing Maintenance.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: What else you asked for?

Councilman Galvin: And in the Tot-Lot money do you need me to itemize that and break it out or do you...

City Manager Ghany: No the tot-lot we'll take it out of capital.

Councilman Galvin: So then the only two specific changes I'm asking for is \$50,000.00 for Library publications whether they be hard copy or digital and \$100,000.00 extra for outside legal expenses.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: And that's your motion and I don't know if I can just add a friendly amendment in your motion. And I'm in favor of \$50,000.00 for the Library and I'm okay for the \$100,000.00 for outside counsel. And the Budget Director can find somewhere else in the Budget and we keep the maintenance at 250, that's my friendly amendment. I don't know if you...

Councilman Galvin: So right now maintenance is 300 take 50 from that for the Library makes it 250. And then see if you can find another 100 somewhere for outside legal?

City Manager Ghany: We do get \$125 from Michael Swerdlow's agreement right now.

Councilman Galvin: I can live with that.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: The friendly amendment is to take \$50,000.00 from the Biscayne Landing Maintenance for EBooks and books for the Library and find another \$100,000.00 elsewhere for outside counsel. And I second the motion; do you have it Mr. City Clerk?

City Clerk Etienne: I do. This is what I have. The motion was made by Councilman Galvin, second by Mayor Tondreau...

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Man.

City Clerk Etienne: Sorry. Seconded by Mayor Bien-Aime with a friendly amendment. It was \$100,000.00 for outside legal expenses to be found somewhere in the Budget. And \$50,000.00 from the Biscayne Landing Maintenance money for Library. And that's the motion made by Galvin seconded by Mayor Bien-Aime.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: With the friendly amendment. Roll call on that please.

ROLL CALL	Mayor Bien-Aime	Yes
	Councilman Galvin	Yes
	Councilwoman Steril	Yes
	Councilwoman Keys	Yes

City Clerk Etienne: Item passes 4-0.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Okay now we're going to...can I hear a motion to approve the Budget as amended?

Councilman Galvin: So moved.

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Second. Roll Call.

ROLL CALL	Councilman Galvin	Yes
	Councilwoman Keys	Yes
	Mayor Bien-Aime	Yes
	Councilwoman Steril	Yes

City Clerk Etienne: Item passes 4-0.

5. *ADJOURNMENT*

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Thank you very much. Can I hear a motion to adjourn?

Councilman Galvin: So moved.

Councilwoman Steril: That's it?

Acting Mayor Bien-Aime: Thank you. Good night.

City Clerk Etienne: 8:46 P.M.